

The champions representing America have taken Tokyo by storm. We have won 25 medals, 9 gold medals so far. But earlier today, we received word that one of our great athletes, Simone Biles, was taking a step back from today's competition. In announcing her decision, she cited the need to "focus on my mental health and not jeopardize my health and wellbeing."

There is no doubt that this is one of the hardest decisions Ms. Biles has had to make in her young life, but it is not only what she viewed as the right decision, it was a courageous decision.

She is the most decorated gymnast in America's history. She is an inspiration to millions of aspiring athletes and fans around the globe. And she is by all means a living legend. But she is also a human, a young woman who today had the courage to step forward and share her humanity with the world. She is an inspiration to all of us, on or off the mat, in competition or not in competition.

Over the past 18 months, the pandemic has compelled each of us to appreciate our common humanity. COVID-19 has claimed the lives of too many friends and family members. It has prevented us from coming together with people we cherish, and it has put many of our plans on hold. It has caused and compounded unimaginable stress, and it has exacted an unimaginable toll. Job loss, not enough food on the table, hardship, paying bills, racial injustice, all of these stressors on life have been magnified.

So if we can learn from Simone Biles' example today, it is that everyone has a burden to carry, and the pandemic has made many of these burdens heavier, especially for working families.

I happen to think we have a responsibility—if we can—to help each other carry those burdens. Here in Congress, we—as lawmakers—have the power to help people. For the single mother who lost her job waiting tables because of the pandemic, we have the power to help her pay her utility bills. For the recent graduate struggling to afford student loan payments and health insurance, we have the power to make their life more affordable. For the owner of a coffee shop who is considering laying off employees to stay in business, we have the power to help him keep those employees on the payroll. To me, this is what President Biden's plan to build back better is all about: eliminating the daily stressors that keep people up all night, giving people some breathing room so that they can focus on the things that really matter.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

REMEMBERING MIKE ENZI

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, like all of our colleagues, I was stunned to wake up this morning and find out that our friend and colleague Mike Enzi had been killed in a tragic accident, I think involving a bicycle, and I think we are still reeling from that.

I just want to share a couple thoughts, if I could. I see the Senator from Oklahoma is here to speak after me, and I will be brief.

I think maybe one of the last bills that Mike Enzi introduced, I was privileged to cosponsor with him. It was a postal naming bill. We do those from time to time, as the Presiding Officer knows. There is a post office in Wyoming that under the bill would be named after the late father of Bobbi Barrasso, Senator JOHN BARRASSO's wife. Her dad had served in the military—I believe in World War II and the Korean war, as I recall—with great honor and courage. He was awarded a number of military awards, I think including the Bronze Star, maybe the Purple Heart and others. I was privileged to cosponsor that bill, and it got passed in wrap-up in Congress last December.

One of my first memories of serving in the U.S. Senate also involved Mike Enzi. I was the Presiding Officer sitting right where you are sitting, Mr. Presiding Officer, and Mike Enzi took the floor and began to speak. He talked about something called the 80-20 rule, and I didn't know what he was talking about. I heard several iterations of an 80-20 rule. But I listened to him talk. He talked a bit about how he and Ted Kennedy, one of the most liberal Senators in the Senate, and Mike Enzi, one of the more conservative Members of the Senate, how they managed to work together and get a lot done as senior members of what would become the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, the HELP Committee, here in the Senate.

I didn't know Mike Enzi. I was brand new here, and he had been here a couple of years before that.

When he was finishing up, I asked one of the pages to give him a note. The note said: Dear Senator Enzi, before you leave the floor, would you come and chat with me?

I was sitting right there. It was a slow day, so he finished up, and he came up to chat with me while I was sitting—presiding as Presiding Officer.

I said: Mike, what is the 80-20 rule, and how does it apply here?

He talked about his relationship with Ted Kennedy. He said: Ted Kennedy is one of the most liberal Democrats in the Senate, and I am one of the more conservative Republicans. He said: We get a lot done.

And they really did. It was a very productive committee.

I said: How does the 80-20 rule work?

He said: Ted and I agree on about 80 percent of the issues that come before our committee, and we disagree maybe on another 20 percent. He said: What he and I have agreed to do is just—we focus on the 80 percent where we agree, and we just say the other 20 percent, we will set that aside and take it up another day.

I said: Is that what you do?

He said: Yes.

I said: Is this something you just started doing recently?

He said: No. We have done it for several years.

I said: No kidding?

He said: No kidding.

And, you know, when I think about that, I know we are going through a tough patch right now with infrastructure and trying to figure out how to put together a bipartisan package with water and water infrastructure, roads, highways, bridges, broadband, intercity passenger rail, transit, and it is not easy. It is not easy.

As I heard about Mike's death today, I thought about that spirit, the 80-20 rule. Maybe we can take a little bit of that and use that to get us across the finish line on the legislation that is being worked on. I hope so. It is an important bill, and it is important legislation. A lot of people in this country are counting on us to do that.

On a personal note, you can't think of Mike Enzi without thinking of his wife Diana. They were inseparable. They were here. They were in Wyoming and traveling all over the State together. As popular as he was, she might have been even more popular. I know that is the case in my State with my wife and me.

But I just want to say to her and to the Enzi family just a real thank-you for sharing not just with the people of Wyoming, but the people of this country, a very, very good man—a very good man. We are grateful for that gift that you shared with us and mourn his death, untimely; he died too soon. I feel thrilled and privileged to have served with him.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

NOMINATION OF TRACY STONE-MANNING

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, a few weeks ago, President Biden nominated Tracy Stone-Manning to be the leader of the Bureau of Land Management. Many people in my State don't know much about the Bureau of Land Management. We don't have a lot of areas actually managed in our State by BLM. It has more than 10,000 employees. It manages roughly an eighth of the Nation's land, including 65 million acres of our forests. The land holds 30 percent of our minerals. Whoever leads this entity leads the issue of how we are managing our forests, how we are handling our minerals, how we are handling our energy development, livestock grazing, recreation, and, yes, timber harvesting.

The individual President Biden nominated we now know was an Earth First! ecoterrorist. She actually typed out, as she has admitted in the past, a threatening letter that was sent out to leaders who were doing forestry in Idaho, saying in her letter that she typed out—and she has admitted that she typed out the threatening letter—that "we," as she put it, drove 500 pounds of spikes into the trees in the Idaho forest and then threatened them, to say: If you harvest those trees, it will not be good for you.

The challenge that we have here is that we have an individual who has admitted that she actually was a part of a group to do tree spiking. Now, what we don't know is if she actually drove a spike. We have no idea. But we do know that she turned evidence on the other people who did and admitted as a part of her plea bargain that she is the one who actually did the letter from a rented typewriter to be able to make sure she couldn't be traced and even in the letter said: If you find me, it would be "your worst nightmare."

So what do we do about this? Typically, when you are going to deal with the person who handles forestry for the United States and the Bureau of Land Management and you find out this person has been involved in tree spiking, which actually is designed to injure or kill people who are logging or people who are actually harvesting the lumber in the sawmills and actually processing that lumber, it would cause a pause.

I cannot imagine what it is going to be if she is actually confirmed in this position, and the individuals who come to her to get a permit to be able to do any kind of forestry work, because they would have to actually come to her office, what they would think when they actually walked through the door, because the Bureau of Land Management notices timber sales and signs off on timber sales for the country. The Bureau of Land Management is the one that makes forest product sale plans. The Bureau of Land Management is the one that develops, maintains, and revises the plans for all public management, including identifying areas for timber sales. In fact, the Bureau of Land Management is also the group who sends in the firefighters to the wildfires to be able to put out the fires, which could be including some of these same trees in the days ahead that apparently still have the spikes in them from decades ago. Understanding this is not just a loose issue. Individuals from the Biden administration just recently have talked about how timber harvesters and haulers are critical to forest management across the country. We need these individuals to help with our forest management. We have wildfires in the areas that individuals in the Biden administration have testified because we are actually not maintaining our forest management enough. We are not doing enough harvesting and thinning in those areas, and so it is actually a problem.

In fact, Christopher French, the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, recently testified the Forest Service research indicates we need to dramatically increase the extent of impact of fuels treatment, such as thinning, harvesting, planting, and prescribed burning across all landscapes.

But yet the leader for the Bureau of Land Management who has been recommended is an individual who has been outspoken in opposition, so much so that she has been active in actually promoting spiking trees.

And it is not just spiking trees. It has also been her environmental issues about grazing land—understanding the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for millions of acres of grazing pastureland across the West. Because the Federal Government owns so much land across the West, many ranchers actually then lease out some of that land for grazing. She has been outspoken as an opponent against this. That is not going to help our ranchers across the West.

And what was most stark to me was this presentation that she had years ago, where she designed several of what she considered to be environmental-focused advertisements, this being one of them where she has a picture of a young girl, and the heading is: "Can you find the environmental hazard in this photo?"

And then she lists out at the bottom of it: "That's right. It's the cute baby that's the environmental hazard."

With this statement below that, she wrote: "We breed more than any other industrialized nation."

Listen, I understand every President has the right to pick their team, but when the leader of the Bureau of Land Management considers this little girl to be an environmental hazard, have we not crossed a threshold of saying our problem with our environment is that we have too many little girls?

Honestly, is anyone else disturbed by this as a possibility to lead the Bureau of Land Management, to make a decision about how we are going to manage our forests, how we are going to handle our grazing land, and what is going to be the general attitude about permitting and people?

Because, apparently, from what she wrote, one of the biggest environmental hazards we have as a country is we breed too much.

I don't think that little girl is a hazard. I think it is a little girl. And I will absolutely oppose Tracy Stone-Manning to lead the Bureau of Land Management. And I would ask my colleagues, even one of my colleagues on the other side, to say: Do you not see a problem with this nominee?

If so, let's find another person. Surely there is another Democrat out there who doesn't have this set of views, who can lead our forestry, our grazing area, and our mineral rights. Surely there is one more Democrat who is out there somewhere who does not share these views, because I don't think that little girl is a hazard. I think she is a blessing.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be able to speak for 5 minutes and, following me, the Senator from Wyoming be able to speak for 8 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING MIKE ENZI

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I rise to speak about the life and legacy of our friend, Mike Enzi, and his sudden loss.

I saw Mike via Zoom just last week at the Senate prayer breakfast. Mike got up a little earlier than the rest of us to be able to join us over the internet from Wyoming. But he liked participating in the prayer breakfast. And as we were reminded by some of our colleagues—I think Senator LANKFORD may have mentioned it—Mike could always be depended on if somebody was a last-minute cancellation, which happened from time to time.

Of course, it had only been a matter of a few months since Mike had retired, marking the conclusion of a storied career in public service. Mike literally did it all. He served in the military and at every level of government, from the mayor's office in Gillette to the State legislature, to here in the U.S. Senate. And he always put the people of Wyoming first.

Mike was pretty unique in this place because he never sought the spotlight. In many ways, it seemed like he was allergic to getting any sort of attention from the press or otherwise. Whether he was in the midst of a high-pressure negotiation or celebrating a big legislative victory, Mike did not run to the TV cameras or reporters in the hallways. He preferred to work quietly behind the scenes, effectively resolving differences in a quiet, thoughtful way. And once he succeeded, he didn't claim the credit for himself. He claimed credit for others.

During Mike's 24 years in the Senate, he certainly had a lot of successes to celebrate, and he let me in on his winning formula not long after I got here. At the time, he and the liberal lion of the Senate, Teddy Kennedy, were chairman and ranking member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. I think they may have swapped out as majorities changed; one became chairman, and the other became ranking member.

But I asked him how Mike, the staunch Western conservative that he was, could work so productively with somebody who shared very different views. And he told me it is easy. It is the 80-20 rule. You are not going to agree or disagree with 100 percent of what someone has to say, but if you focus on the 20 percent or that that you will never agree on, you overlook the 80 percent that you can agree on.

Well, as simple as it may sound, it is a winning formula for success here in the Senate, and more of us should practice the 80-20 rule. At a time when more attention is paid to what divides us than what unites us, I hope the legacy of Mike Enzi and the 80-20 rule will remain a constant in the Senate.

As we honor the life and legacy of our good friend, Mike Enzi, there is another favorite saying of his that has been on my mind. He used to say: You have to have an attitude of gratitude.

Well, Mike was always grateful—grateful to God, grateful to live in this great country, grateful to the people of Wyoming for the opportunity to serve them, and, of course, grateful for his